This decision of assigning the work to these agencies and subsequent withdrawal from these agencies was taken at the level of Chairman. These escalation in cost is mostly national in the sense that the money available for construction in the KVS did not generally lapse in this period but was used on other works which as a result got expedited. As far as cases of infructuous expenditure are concerned, in the case relating to construction of a tube-well in Delhi, the CAG has faulted the construction agency *i.e.* CPWD. In other two cases relating to expenditure incurred on preparing the designs for Kendriya Vidyalaya at Patna and Jamalpur, part of the expenditure incurred has been made use of in the construction subsequently made by the CPWD and they have given a rebate of Rs. 63,400 on that account to the KVS. Thus no particular official of the KVS has been found responsible for escalation in cost or infructuous expenditure. There is no question, therefore, of taking Departmental action against any official.

The KVS has initiated action for computerising the information regarding construction works to allow for close monitoring so that any delay or hold up of works taking place is detected immediately and action taken in time. The construction agencies which could not complete the works assigned to them in time are no longer being assigned fresh construction works.

Purchases in National Museum, Delhi

163. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL. Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that purchases in National Museum, Delhi are generally made from one single company manufacturing an item without inviting tenders;

(b) if so, the name of the company from which items like fans, coolers and other equipment were purchased during last years; and

(c) the quantity and value of such goods purchased for the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

Physical verification of Antique in National Museum, Delhi

164. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that physical verification of antiques in different sections of National Museum, Delhi has not been carried out periodically as required under the rules?

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) when was the last physical verification carried out there;

(d) whether any antique has been found to be missing from the Museum and sold to other countries; and

(e) if so, what steps Government are taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (e) Physical verification of antiquities is carried out in the National Museum as a continuous process. No antique has been found missing during verification. However, separately, 'Golconda Rumal' has been reported missing. The loss of the Rumal is under investigation. That the Rumal is missing from the National Museum has been notified to the Art Dealers Association, USA and also to